

Applicants : James E. Marek
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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

[0010] Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view of the tool holder and insert construction taken along the line IV-IV, Fig. 9, showing the insert within the insert retaining space defined by the outer and inner sections of the main tool body;

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] Fig. 19 is a partial cross-sectional view taken along the line XIX-XIX; Fig. 18;

Please replace paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] Fig. 1 shows a typical tool holder 10 of the present invention, including a main tool holder body 12 and removable insert 14. The main tool holder body 12 typically includes an inner section 16 and an outer section 18 having a top portion 7, a bottom portion 8, and a front portion 9. Typically, the inner section 16 and the outer section 18 are two components; however, one could also construct a main tool holder body 12 from one component or more than two components, so long as the main tool holder body includes an elongated insert receiving space 20. Typically, the main tool holder body 12 is constructed from metal or other similar durable material. The main tool holder body 12 could also be injection molded. Furthermore, as seen in Figs. 1-8, inner section 16 and outer section 18 are constructed such that the tool receiving apertures 22 substantially align.

Please replace paragraph [0037] with the following amended paragraph:

[0037] As shown in Figs. 9-10, the tool holder 10 may be mounted using the L-shaped retaining members 28 and locking tab 30 to any surface. One such surface is a bottle holding

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apparatus 42. The locking tab 30 mates with a locking tab receiving aperture 43 once the L-shaped retaining members 28 are spaced within grooves 46, slid in the correct retaining direction (in the case of Fig. 10, to the left), and the tool holder 10 is pushed down, thereby frictionally forcing the locking tab 30 into the locking tab receiving aperture 43. The locking tab 30 typically has an arched shape or bump to facilitate retention of the locking tab 30 in the locking tab receiving aperture 43.

Please replace paragraph [0040] with the following amended paragraph:

[0040] A tool holder of the present invention may be used alone or with another holding device, such as bottle holding apparatus 42. Bottle holding apparatus 42 may be mounted on any surface with a fastener, typically a screw, and/or may have a U-shaped channel 44 that fits over the edge of a surface (such as the edge of a toolbox or cart) to suspend the apparatus 42. When a screw or other fastener is utilized, the fastener(s) is (are) typically spaced within one or more fastener receiving apertures 45. Typically, the apparatus 42 has a top shelf 46 and a bottom shelf 48. The top shelf 46 typically includes apertures of various diameters 60 to receive any size bottle or other container or device. Also, shelf 46 may be sloped downwardly such that water, cleaning solutions, lubricants or the like run off shelf 46. The apparatus 42 is typically made of metal or other similar material. The apparatus 42 could also be injection molded.

Please replace paragraph [0041] with the following amended paragraph:

[0041] With further reference to Figs. 13-17, a tool holder 10A according to another aspect of the present invention includes a main tool holder body 12A and an insert 14A. Tool holder 10A includes upwardly extending tabs 50 that are received in openings 51 of a bottle holder 42B (see also Fig. 20). The tool holder 10A may be installed to a bottle holder 42B by inserting the tabs 50 into openings 51. The tool holder 10A is then shifted horizontally (i.e., to the left in Fig. 20) such that the tabs 50 engage the end portions 53 of openings 51. The tool holder 10A is then rotated downwardly, until the locking tab 30 (Fig. 15) is received in opening

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52 of bottle holder 42A to thereby retain the tool holder 10A in position. The attachment tabs 50 and the L-shaped retaining members 28 both permit installation and/or removal of the tool holders 10A and 10, respectively, from the bottle carriers 42-42C while tools are being held by the tool holders 10A and 10.

Please replace paragraph [0042] with the following amended paragraph:

[0042] The main tool holder body 12A includes a plurality of openings 55, each of which includes an elongated portion 56 that is substantially the same as the openings 22 in the tool holder of Fig. 1. However, openings 55 further include radiused portions 57 extending transverse to the elongated portion 56. The shape of the openings 55 thereby permits a large variety of items such as a wrench, pliers, scissors, or other such tools or objects having a variety of sizes and shapes to be inserted into openings 55. The insert 14A is similar to the insert 14 described in more detail above, except that openings 40A in insert 14A are somewhat larger to accommodate a wider range of tools or other objects. The inserts 14 and 14A keep the tools or other objects from vibrating or rattling while moving or otherwise transporting the tool holder on a tool chest, vehicle, or the like. Also, the insert 14A holds the tools or other such objects in a secure manner, yet also permits the tools to be readily removed from the tool holder for use.

Please replace paragraph [0043] with the following amended paragraph:

[0043] With further reference to Figs. 18-20, the tool holder 10B may be mounted to a bottle holder 42B having a plurality of openings 60' in an upper sidewall 61. The openings 60' are somewhat similar to the openings 60 in Figs. 9-10, and include circular edge portions 62. However, unlike the openings 60 described above, the openings 60' further include elongated elliptical portions 63. The elliptical portions 63 permit bottles having an oblong cross-sectional shape to be received in the openings 60', while also permitting retention of bottles having a circular cross-sectional shape. A flange member 64 includes a downwardly extending flange 65 forming a hanger for mounting the bottle holder 42B to the edge of a tool chest or the like. The

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flange member 64 may be secured to the upwardly extending flange 66 of bottle holder 42B via bolts 67 or the like. Alternately, the bottle holder 42B can be mounted directly to a vertical surface in a vehicle, a building wall, or the like by removing the flange member 64. Threaded fasteners or the like may then be inserted through the openings 68 in flanges 66 and 100 to secure the bottle holder 42B to the vertical surface. Flanges 66 and 100 may be angled somewhat, at, for example, three degrees from vertical, such that the outer edges of flanges 66 and 100 first contact the vertical mounting surface during installation. As the fasteners in openings 68 are tightened, flanges 66 and 100 flex, thereby ensuring the edges of flanges 66 and 100 tightly about the mounting surface.

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following amended paragraph:

[0044] A depression 69 may be formed in the lower wall 70 of bottle holder 42B to vertically position the bottles or the like positioned in the openings 60'. The depression 69 may have a shallow, circular shape, or may be oblong to correspond to the shape of the openings 60'. In this way, bottles or the like positioned in the bottle holder 42B are retained in the upright position.

Please replace paragraph [0045] with the following amended paragraph:

[0045] With further reference to Fig. 21, the bottle holder 42C and tool holder 10A may be mounted to an upper edge 77 of toolbox 72 via flange member 64. Alternately, the bottle holder 42C may be secured directly to the vertical side surface 73 of toolbox 72 by detaching the flange member 64 and inserting threaded fasteners or the like through openings 68 in flange 66 of bottle holder 42C. As discussed above, the oblong shape of the openings 60' permits them to receive bottles 74 having an oblong cross-sectional shape, or bottles 75 having a circular cross-sectional shape.

Please replace paragraph [0046] with the following amended paragraph:

[0046] With further reference to Fig. 22, tool holder 10A may be mounted to a wide variety of vertical surfaces 76 utilizing a channel bracket 85. Bracket 85 has a generally hat-shaped cross-sectional configuration with a main vertical wall portion 78, upper and lower inwardly extending flanges 79 and 80, respectively, an upwardly extending flange 81, and a downwardly extending flange 82. A plurality of openings 83 in flanges 81 and 82 receive threaded fasteners 84 or the like to thereby secure the tool holder 10B to a variety of vertical surfaces 76. The vertical wall 78 of bracket 85 includes openings 51 and 52 to thereby permit the tool holder 10A to be mounted to bracket 85 in substantially the same manner as described in connection with the bottle holder 42B (Fig. 20).

Please replace paragraph [0047] with the following amended paragraph:

[0047] With further reference to Fig. 23, bottle holder 42C may include an insert 90 having a plurality of openings 91, each of which has the same size and shape as the openings 60 of bottle holder 42C. Openings 60 and 91 may be circular, or they could have an elliptical shape that is the same as apertures 60 (Figs. 9 and 10). Holes 60 and 91 could also include radiused portions to form the same shape as openings 60' of Figs. 18 and 20. The insert 90 generally comprises a web or wall 92 and a pair of downwardly extending front tabs 93 that are spot welded at 94 to the front wall 95 of bottle holder 42C. Insert 90 also includes a downwardly extending rear flange 96 that extends along the entire rear edge of the insert 90. A pair of downwardly extending tabs 97 extend from flange 96 through openings 98 in the bottom wall 70 of bottle holder 42C. The tabs 97 may be spot welded to the downwardly extending lower flange 100 at 99 to further secure the insert 90 to the bottle holder 42C. The web 92 of insert 90 is spaced upwardly from the bottom wall 70 of bottle holder 42C, such that bottles positioned in the openings 60 and 91 are thereby retained in an upright position.